

**The Magazine for the Parish of Cheviot Churches: Church
of Scotland**

CHEVIOT



Spring 2023



Prayer Corner



Your Radiant and Magnificent Resurrection

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, by Your radiant and magnificent resurrection, You broke the bonds of death and rose from the grave as a conqueror. You reconciled Heaven and earth. Our life had no hope of eternal happiness before You redeemed us. Your resurrection has washed away our sins, restored our innocence, and brought us joy. How inestimable is the tenderness of Your love!

— *Saint Gregory the Great*

Happy Easter

May your Easter be happy

May your day be bright

May you enjoy the treats

And sweet delights

But remember the meaning,

Remember God's gift,

Remember the resurrection,

May your soul uplift.



Easter Children's Prayer

God made you and God made me,
He made the world for us to see.
God loves you and long ago,
He sent his Son to tell us so.
Jesus showed us many things,
To love and share and dance and sing.
To learn and pray, to help and care,
He promised he'd always be there.
He died but then came back to life,
Let's celebrate for he's alive!
Amen.

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

With a return to frost and the threat of snow, winter seems reluctant to ease its grip, but our Spring bulbs seem resilient, and I hope that Spring will be with us by the time this Cheviot reaches your homes. As you are aware, I spent many years abroad, and someone was asking me what Easter was like, so I thought for my 'letter' this quarter

I would describe Holy Week in Israel & Palestine. For over 6 years I lived in Tiberias on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, where the Church of Scotland had a hospital, which in time turned into a guest house and then a very swish hotel but I would travel throughout the country.

Palm Sunday

We hold our service at the Scottish Church in Tiberias on Sunday evenings, so in the morning I join one of the Anglican congregations we are partnered with. Often, I go to Nazareth, and today the congregation, like many in the Arab Christian community, is holding a Palm Sunday procession through the streets of Nazareth. The scout band leads the way, the young men and woman playing pipes (Yes, Arab bagpipes!) and drums. We follow behind waving palm branches. It takes well over an hour, but we finally come to the church where we hold a shortened service, followed by a welcome lunch.

Maundy Thursday

The journey from Tiberias to Jerusalem takes 3 hours along the Jordan Valley, before a steep climb from Jericho to Jerusalem. The Maundy Thursday service is at the Lutheran church in the heart of the maze-like Old City. As Jesus washed the disciples' feet, so the feet of some of the Arab parishioners are washed. It is always a humbling experience. Remembering the Last Supper, when Jesus and his friends shared a Passover meal, so we celebrate communion. It finishes with the peace, which is always meaningful since we came from different denominations and different nationalities, though the majority were Palestinian Christians. After the benediction, some of the congregation process through the narrow lanes of the Old City to Gethsemane, where some ancient olive trees still grow – some date them to Jesus' time. We sing various hymns as we go, and at Gethsemane we remember how Jesus is betrayed by a kiss from Judas, deserted by his friends and denied by Peter. It is a sombre end to the day.

Good Friday

An early start as we have to be at the Via Dolorosa for 6 o'clock in the morning, when the Protestant churches are able to walk the way of the Cross. Other denomination have their 'slots' later in the morning. I have stayed overnight with friends in East Jerusalem, and as we enter the Old City we are stopped by soldiers, who question why we are out so early. After some time, we are allowed to go through the Damascus gate and into the Old City. Dawn is breaking when we meet with the others and start to walk along the way of the Cross, stopping for prayer and meditation 14 times as we remembered how Jesus carried the cross to Golgotha. There is a cross, and we take turns to carry it, though it is heavy and awkward. More people join us on the way, having been delayed by army checkpoints. It takes us three hours, but finally we reach the Holy Sepulchre Church, traditionally the site of Calvary. There is a breakfast nearby, then we say our goodbyes, as I have to drive back to Tiberias, where we hold a service in the afternoon. There is another army checkpoint on the way back. I have been strip-searched before, and on two occasions my car was 'strip-searched' too, but on this occasion, I smile at the soldier and wish them 'Shabbat Shalom', the traditional greeting for the Jewish

Sabbath, and that seems to do the trick. When I reach Tiberias, some people are camping by the lakeside, having barbecues, while I make my way to the small church by the lakeshore, where a small group of us gather. In the evening I drive 25 minutes to the small mixed Christian-Muslim town of Reineh, near Nazareth, where I have a close relationship with the Anglican church. The Christians carry a coffin, representing the body of Jesus, and process round the streets before finally coming to the church, stripped of all its finery, for a service.

Holy Saturday

A day for me to recover, but for the Arab Christians, it is a day to visit the tombs of loved ones in graveyards.

Easter Day

We hold a dawn service on top of a turret in the extensive gardens of the Scots Hotel in Tiberias overlooking the Sea of Galilee. The turret is a remnant of the old Ottoman wall that used to surround the town. I get up about 5am and walk through silent streets. Everything is dark, but there is the strong scent of the flowers. It is easy to imagine Mary Magdalene coming to the tomb early in the morning with the spices to anoint Jesus but finding the rock blocking its entrance rolled away. Several people join me and as we share communion, the sun starts to climb above the Golan Heights, making the water on the Lake glimmer with reds and oranges. It is a special moment. We share breakfast afterwards. Sunday is a normal working day in Israel, so our service is always in the evening. There is only a small congregation, but for Easter people travel from all over the Galilee, and some pilgrims visiting Tiberias join us, as the cry goes out yet again, The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Our services in Scotland may be different, but do come along and join in. You will be very welcome.

Happy Easter

Colin

Easter Services

2nd April Palm Sunday - 10am Yetholm

11.15 Linton

(We shall have a short procession, so come with some greenery to wave! Palm crosses from Tanzania will be given out)

5th April – Kelso Churches Together Service at 10.30am at St Andrew's, Kelso

6th April Maundy Thursday 7pm – Linton

(Including non-compulsory foot washing!)

7th April Good Friday meditation at Hoselaw Chapel from 2-5pm. *Feel free to come for 5 minutes or the full 3 hours.*

9th April Easter Day.

9am – Joint communion service at Yetholm

11am – Joint all-age service with infant baptism at Morebattle.

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*God you come to us unexpectedly
in the hands and voice of a stranger
and in the everyday details of our lives.*

*Give us courage to keep working for justice
and the grace to give ourselves totally,
so that even in small things
our lives will make a difference*

Lotte Webb

*When the darkness seems overwhelming, light dawns.
Into the silence of our worst fears, God speaks a living word.*

EASTER THOUGHTS AT THE KITCHEN SINK

Rev. Birdbath has always been grateful to the unknown person who designed the internal layout of his house. The kitchen sink stands at a large window looking straight out on his beloved Rockery, an area of long grass, a Rowan tree (from which hang his various birdfeeders), and beyond is the wide Haugh and the great mass of Staerough on the top of which a Ukrainian flag still flies proudly, a symbol of faith and hope. While he is busy with his Fairy Liquid, rubber gloves and tea-towel he can wonder at the annual rhythm of Nature. This year, once again, he has watched Spring unfold: first the aconites, then the carpet of snowdrops, next the crocuses, and now his favourite miniature daffs, while the more mature plants form buds and vie for space. The birds too, sensing Spring, are becoming amorous. Young love among the pigeons, though sometimes a hard-hearted hoity-toity young damsel plays hard-to-get and grieves her ardent admirer; or sometimes more mature couples just sit billing and cooing and enjoying each other's company as they perch on the fence. Soon there will be lambs in the field, and baby bunnies for them to chase and giggle at. It happens year after year, to Birdbath's delight, and once again as he dries the dishes he raises that age-old affirmation, CHRIST IS RISEN! And his heart cries back, HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA! Happy Easter to all his readers.

It's that time of year again.

I know we haven't celebrated Easter yet, but it is in this edition of the Cheviot that I remind you that Christian Aid Week is in May beginning on the 14th. Christian Aid is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee and as such receives funds from your donations. But it also has partners in Syria who were very swift to get help to those who are in the earthquake zone, drawing on funds supplied directly by Christian Aid.

Your donations during CA week go to support such partners including this years featured work in Malawi.

Jen has to decide which of her children to educate as she cannot afford to send them all to school. In Malawi, food, fuel fertiliser and school fees have doubled, and they are also seriously affected by the climate crisis in their efforts to produce food. So, through the partner group Nandola Farmer's Association Christian Aid is launching the Big Pea Challenge. Growing the humble but versatile pigeon pea can transform lives by providing nutritious food and a saleable crop. Check out the Christian Aid website for more details.

Once again, this year we will use the delivery only envelopes so please do consider volunteering in this task. All you have to do is write on the envelope where it can be returned to and pop it through letter boxes near you and the more the folk the less you have to walk and write. For more information contact Trish Gentry or Melanie Eve and thank you in advance – as the slogan has it “every little helps”.

Have you ever been told to ‘use your loaf’?

These are letters which can be used as guidance when shopping especially for food. Not necessarily in order of importance; -

L is for local. Not everything we eat can be produced locally or even in the UK, but much can be and is. This particularly includes seasonal produce which we can use rather than imported out of season crops which are costly to produce to pockets and the environment. Local also provides jobs and business in the community.

O is for organic. This is an environmental issue and sometimes a tricky one. But it makes sense to avoid all those additives and chemicals if you can and it can be worth the higher cost. Organic production tends to be more sustainable too.

A is for animal friendly. This does not mean going vegetarian or vegan but thinking about where animal products come from and how they are produced and querying why some products are so cheap. Standards are higher in the UK than many places elsewhere.

F is for fair trade. There are a tremendous number of fairly traded products, not just tea and coffee. Products bearing the Fair Trademark come from producers who are monitored for environmental **and** ethical methods. Producers receive a fair price, so they are not working at a loss but have enough profit to improve their circumstances. Check out the Fairtrade Foundation website for lists of products and suppliers and become familiar with the logo for when you shop. Cheviot Churches is a designated Fairtrade congregation and should act accordingly.

Finally - I am aware that shopping with environmental and ethical issues in mind can be difficult – and costly. But there are hidden costs which are reflected in the price we pay. Less cost to us could mean a great cost for others. I enjoy a favourite brand of Fairtrade chocolate and yes it costs more but I can (and should) eat less and benefit all parties!

Trish Gentry

Morebattle Recreation Ground

Since receiving the final planning consent from Scottish Borders Council, we are now in the process of applying for a Grant to cover the costs of engaging Landscape Architect, Quantity Surveyor and Civil Engineers to prepare tender documents and get quotes for the groundworks.

We will need to deliver the Project in two phases because of the funders criteria i.e.

Phase 1 - to create pitch area, all paths, an area for (future) Orchard and Community Garden.

Phase 2 - fencing, play equipment/furniture and planting/soft works.

A condition of the Grant Funders is we need to provide a % of the costs and also we need to have a maintenance fund so fundraising is ongoing with an Annual Coffee Morning and we also held a Craft Fair which was well supported. We plan to hold various events this coming year.

Catherine Mabon

(Secretary)

Kalewater Community Company.



A Wee Story of a Cracked Pot.

Long, long ago, in a faraway country, an old man had two large pots hanging on the ends of a pole, which he carried on a yoke across his shoulders.

It was a long walk up a steep hill from the river where he had to go for water every morning.

One of the pots had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and was always full when it reached home. The cracked pot was only half full.

For many years this went on every day, and only one and a half pots of water reached home.

Of course, the perfect pot was very proud of itself and boasted that it did the job properly. The poor cracked pot was ashamed and miserable as it only able to do half of what it had been made to do.

After years of thinking that it was a bitter failure, it spoke to the man one day down by the stream.

'I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side lets the water leak out all the way back home.'

The old man smiled, 'Have you never noticed the flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? When I found you, I saw the crack -

- but I needed two pots. I planted flower seeds on your side, and every day, while we walk back, you water them. For years I have picked your beautiful flowers to decorate my home. Without you, they would not brighten my little house or greet everyone who walks up the path.'

Not one of us is perfect. It's the cracks and flaws we have that make our lives together so very interesting. None of us are total failures. We all have different gifts. We must never be ashamed that we are not as good as some of our friends, we must accept each person for what they are. Admire and encourage them for the good things that they do. If you feel that you are failing in some way, just keep on doing the things that you do best. Always remember to look at the flowers on your side of the path.

Anne Brown.

Morning has broken

It is in the last few years that I have really come to love these words, which have, for me, become a celebration and thanksgiving for this miracle of life. Eleanor Farjeon was asked by the editor of Songs of Praise to write a hymn of thanksgiving for the day to fit the Scottish tune to which it has traditionally been sung. She must have been pleased with it because she altered just a very few lines and included it in a book of poems for children. Here it is, for the young at heart, for those of all faiths or none:

Morning has broken.
Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken.
 Like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
From the first Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall
Sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall
 In the first hour.
Praise for the sweetness
Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness
From the first shower

Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
Born of the one light
 Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
Praise every morning,
Spring's recreation
Of the new day.

Eleanor Fargeon

I think of these words every morning, as it gets light, and in the same breath I also think of the words of Catullus, a Latin poet of the Roman Republic, which say: let us live and love, for while the sun that sets every day rises when morning comes, our lives are brief. These two poems have been a source of strength and inspiration.

I am a retired physics teacher, and as I think about the sun rising every morning, I also like to think about time: the nature of time, what it is, how we measure it, that sort of thing. The day is our natural unit of time here on this planet, and we have evolved to it. Every cell in our body ticks away with its own circadian clock. Our eyes have a third type of photo receptor not involved in image formation and “seeing” things, but which has the task of assessing the levels of light around dawn and dusk and regulating our circadian rhythm. Losing both eyes in combat doesn’t just make you blind it destroys your body clock - and that seriously disrupts your life.



The sun’s rising and setting, or any fraction of a day, aren’t a good enough measure of time for the scientists of today, but that needn’t worry you or me. Actually, what time is concerns us more because it is given meaning by the process of decay which happens to all living things. It is spring in the hymn because the blackbird is singing and as I write there are signs of life emerging everywhere, carpets of snowdrops, buds appearing, but as the year progresses, flowers will fade and die, leaves will turn colour and fall, I will become aware of another aspect of the ageing process.

Would time have any meaning at all, without life? That’s too complicated to consider here although I like to think about it.

But for today, morning has broken I have lived to see another rising of the sun, to be able to love, to grow older, wiser, and to be thankful for this amazing thing we call life.

Ann Thorns

April 2023 Yetholm Market

Gem and I are delighted to announce that as of Saturday April 8th Yetholm Market will be up and running from the courtyard of The Old Brewery Town Yetholm.

There will be local produce artisan items crafts and makers and lots, lots more.... Not to mention teas, coffees, cakes and treats aplenty from Poppy’s Pantry.

We are looking forward to (hopefully) providing a useful service to the community and surrounding areas, a platform for our talented members of the community and beyond who create, as well as practical bits – from veg, meat and fish to hot soup and afternoon tea!

We would be delighted if you could make it along! We are opening at 12noon, and doors close at 4pm.

If anyone is interested in booking a stall or table for upcoming events, please contact Gem on 07771332938(What'sApp) or by email

PoppysPantryBakes@gmail.com



Letter page

Some time ago, one of our contributors suggested that we set up a letter page where anyone could comment on any items published, and perhaps make a few suggestions for other items which might be of interest. While it was agreed that this might be helpful, other things took priority and it did not happen. Now is the chance to make the magazine your own. There are several items which welcome contribution. The coronation was mentioned at the recent meeting of the Mission and Outreach committee. After talking to several friends old and new, my gleanings revealed that the outstanding memory of the last coronation was one of ‘the day that the rains came down’ – with a vengeance. And didn’t it rain! Torrential downpours. (It is strange to note that we had similar rainstorms on the evening that our queen died, continuing throughout the whole of the night.) Second place went to the first sight for many of us of the exciting invention, the Television. Black and white we were told. More like fifty shades of grey with rather hazy definition. This was frequently interrupted by snowstorms which could be fixed by moving the aerial around, which often resulted in many less than helpful suggestions as to where the best position might be. People in towns were said to have stood in the rain watching this magic box which was displayed in shop windows for their enjoyment. If their reception was no better than ours, I doubt whether they would be encouraged to make a purchase. Things improved and soon these boxes took pride of place in many homes.

Many vivid memories spring to mind. Perhaps you have some that may be of interest to people who did not share that experience. Or have you thoughts of money saving tips, as in Penny Pincher’s contributions? Do you remember budget meals during many difficult years last century?

It was a suggestion that we thought worth considering. Although it may fall by the wayside, it seemed worth a try. We welcome feedback and suggestions. The decision is yours if you decide to put pen to paper.

Anne Brown.



Queen Elizabeth the Second

We are looking forward to a coronation, a ceremony like no other and, one that many will not have experienced in their lifetime. The death of our queen marks the end of an era. Although, at the time, there was a great deal of unrest at the title given to our new queen, there were many celebrations all over Scotland. A song popular for many years was:

Scotland hasnae got a king. She hasnae got a queen.

How can there ever be a second Liz when the first yin's never
been? Nae Liz, Nae Lizabeth
the first, nae Liz will ever dae.

Qo'l mak oor state republican in the Scottish Break Away.

Already there are suggestions that the Stone of Destiny should not be returned to London. We trust that demonstrations do not mar such a solemn ceremony.

Throughout her reign, Queen Elizabeth won the admiration, hearts and respect of many people, which was obvious when so many people lined the roadsides, bringing horses, dogs, and even farm vehicles to show their love and respect as she was taken from Scotland on her final journey south. Thousands queued for hours to receive the wristbands allowing access to St. Giles Cathedral. Although it was a high security affair, with frequent checks in place, it was a calm and orderly procession.

Other songs portrayed a very different perspective.

In a golden coach, there's a heart of gold
Driving through old London town
With the sweetest Queen the world's ever seen
Wearing her golden crown.

There were two verses to this song. Each ended with the same two lines: In a golden coach, there's a heart of gold that belongs to you and me. That was as true on the day of her final journey on the State Gun Carriage, drawn by members of the Royal Navy, as it was on her first journey in the golden coach. She has devoted her life to the service of her God and her people. King Charles has a hard act to follow and a wonderful example.

Anne Brown.

Penny Pincher – the girl who's on the money!

Inflation is still with us and making everything more expensive every week. Thank you to everyone in Morebattle and Yetholm who shared their energy and money saving tips. Here are a few ways to make resources go that bit further.

Whenever I have been in conversation, complaining about the price of fuel most people say that they burn logs instead of electricity. But what about people who don't have a wood burner, and rely on central heating, what can they do? It's been suggested that you pay attention to each radiator; turning radiators off in empty rooms, put them on low in rooms that just need a little warmth to prevent damp and mould, and on high in rooms where you sit, and on medium in rooms where you are active. As the weather improves, save money by turning your boiler thermostat down by 1 or 2 degrees.

Have you noticed that in films or TV land, they go to bed but never shut the curtains. I'm sat there saying 'shut the curtains and save energy'! If you haven't yet got blinds and curtains at your windows, you could be losing a lot of household heat – or you may be film star material.

Aren't we lucky to have a local shop? Using the shop means we don't waste time and fuel going into town. The car is another source of expenditure that we can influence by less casual use and more care. Make sure that you are not just popping into Kelso for just one thing, make your journeys out worthwhile. When driving reduce speed and save fuel. Doing 70 MPH eats fuel, so cut your speed when on a motorway journey to a more economical 60 MPH.

In this cold weather I have been making use of a smart suggestion to make ‘fridge soup’. I’ve used leftover vegetables and a few lentils to make fresh hearty soups. I freeze half of it for later. Always label and date your own frozen foods, so you can recognise it easily. Another suggestion is to freeze your chip shop chips. They always give you huge portions, so set half aside and freeze them. They can be reheated in a hot oven just like regular frozen chips.

A direct way of saving money is to spend less. Ask yourself about regular subscriptions. Do you really want to continue paying for magazines you barely look at? Apps you never use? Do you need to keep paying for all of them?

Saving the Environment



Suggestions are coming to us from every direction, instructing us on what we **must do** to achieve Net Zero. A headline recently stated that One Pot Cooking was the ideal solution. Most of us in our country were well versed in one pot cooking. You only need to look at much of our staple diet: soup, stew, porridge, and stovie tatties to name but a few. Years ago, we did not have many ‘speciality pans’. As open ranges were the norm, there was little scope for many pans. A real bonus was that this involved less washing up, saving hot water.

We were also very conscious of scarcity of food and the high prices at that time. Waste not, want not was an oft repeated phrase.

If we were to start a Reader’s Letter’s page, would any of our more mature readers be willing to share budget recipes or interesting and tasty use of leftovers, if there are any?

Anne Brown.

YETHOLM YEWTREE ALLOTMENTS

In January 2020, I saw a poster on the Town Yetholm village noticeboard saying that plots were available on the Yetholm Yewtree Allotment site. One phone call, a site visit, and a giant leap of faith later, my husband Martin and I were the proud, if very nervous, tenants of Plot 3b. Of course, in January 2020 we had no idea of the upheavals we would all face in the months and couple of years ahead, but during the long months of lockdown, as we cleared and dug and sowed and planted, we counted our blessings every day. We were rookie gardeners and made lots of mistakes (we still do), but it was the most enjoyable learning experience we could wish for. More experienced allotmenters offered advice, encouragement and, perhaps most helpful of all, anecdotes about their own failures!

Until this year, membership of the YYAA was open only to residents of Yetholm. However, as demand in Yetholm has dropped, and enquiries have come in from the surrounding villages, the Committee proposed that plots should be available to residents from the whole of the area covered by Cheviot Churches, and this change has been approved by the current membership. So if you are reading this, you are eligible to join us!

Members of the YYAA have access to a large communal shed, where tools can be stored if it would be difficult to move them back and forth. Water is available on site, thanks to the skills and hard work of Committee member Stan Brown, who designed, built, and maintains our highly efficient rainwater collection and distribution system.

Tending an allotment can be hard work, but it is good for the mind, body and soul. And home-grown fruit and vegetables are very good to eat! If you are interested in taking a plot, please get in touch for a chat about what's involved, and to arrange a visit to have a look around. You can contact me on 01573 420650, or email yetholmallotments@gmail.com.

Ann Marie Wareham

Secretary, Yetholm Yewtree Allotment Association

Floral Gateway Update 2023

The Floral Gateway Group was out and about in 2022 as you will have noticed. The change to permanent planting at some of our sites has been successful and is providing colour throughout the season. It was a tree planting year with nine deciduous trees planted at the periphery of the recreation field in the autumn and then more recently, four quite mature silver birch trees were planted by the War Memorial. Two were purchased after a successful grant application to commemorate the late Queen's

platinum jubilee and Steven Rowe from SR Landscaping kindly purchased the other two.

Plans for this season are for ongoing maintenance of all our sites, removal of tree guards and hedge spirals in order to avoid plastic pollution, and maintenance of our flower beds. The Wildlife area below the Caravan site is a tranquil haven full of birdsong, a great variety of wildflowers and maturing apple trees. Take a wander down there with binoculars or a book. It has been decided that there will be **NO Village Green Plant Sale** this year but this decision will be reviewed year on year as plant growers move towards peat free and plastic free propagation of plants.

We are always looking for new, enthusiastic members, no experience is necessary, just a willingness to help around the village. The village website usually has the contact details of our members. Give one of us a call or accost us when you see us around and about."

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE held on 3rd MARCH 2023 in YETHOLM



There were 37 of us gathered from our Cheviot Churches in Yetholm Kirk on Friday 3 March to celebrate the World Day of Prayer. This year, the service was prepared by the committee in Taiwan, reflecting on St Paul's encouragement to the Ephesian church, who told them, "I have heard about your faith." Rev Una Stewart, our guest speaker challenged us, like the Christians at Ephesus, to live out our faith with compassion, grace, love, and hope. Our enjoyable gathering ended with tea and cake, collecting £230 for 2 charity projects in Taiwan.

The usual weekly Prayer Service continues each Tuesday; in Yetholm at 1:30 pm until the end of March and thereafter, in Linton Kirk at 6:30 pm. We much appreciate meeting together after the long lockdown period and always include in our prayers all those who live in our parish, especially those who are unwell, are grieving or going through a difficult time. We are always very happy to warmly welcome visitors or new friends to join with us. Or if you have any prayer requests in confidence, please either complete one of the forms found in each parish church or speak to our Minister, Rev Colin Johnston, or myself.

Kathleen Bates (Prayer Secretary) Tel 01573 420259

Dates for diary

March

Saturday 25th – Morebattle & Hownam Guild Coffee Morning in the Institute at 10.30am.

Tuesday 28th – Yetholm and District Community Council at 7pm in Youth Hall.

Thursday 30th – National Theatre Screening “Life of Pi” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12 at door.

April

Saturday 8th – Morebattle Village Hall Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Village Hall.

Wednesday 12th – Morebattle SWI meets in Institute at 7.15pm – Jill & Robert Scott – Dessert Diva Competition - Cake Stand & Decorated Easter Bun.

Thursday 13th – Family Bingo Night at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Proceeds to Cheviot Churches.

Friday 14th – John Nichol in “Wandering Willie’s Tale” at 7.30pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12. Contact Susan Stewart to reserve seats.

Tuesday 18th – Kalewater Community Council Meeting at 7pm in Morebattle Institute.

Thursday 20th – National Theatre Screening of “Good” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12 at door.

Tuesday 25th – Yetholm and District Community Council at 7pm in Youth Hall.

Wednesday 26th – Wauchope Hall A.G.M at 7pm in Hall.

May

Friday 5th – Installation of Bari Gadgi and Bari Manushi at 7pm in Wauchope Hall.

Wednesday 10th – Morebattle SWI meets in Institute at 7.15pm – Talk on Stable Life, Ashkirk. Competition – Favourite Coaster & Jar of Chutney.

Saturday 13th– Coffee Morning in Institute at 10.30am in aid of Parkinson's.

Tuesday 16th - Kalewater Community Council Meeting at 7pm in Institute.

Thursday 18th – National Theatre Screening of “Best of Enemies” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12 at door.

Saturday 27th – Guy Masterton on “Under Milkwood” at 7 30pm in Wauchope Hall. Tickets £12. Contact Susan Stewart to reserve tickets.

Tuesday 30th – Yetholm and District Community Council at 7pm in Youth Hall.

June

Saturday 10th – Morebattle Institute Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Institute

Sunday 11th – Yetholm Festival Week starts with Kirkin' in Yetholm Church at 10am.

Wednesday 14th – Morebattle SWI – Annual Summer Outing.

Tuesday 20th - Kalewater Community Council Meeting at 7pm in Institute.

Tuesday 27th – Yetholm and District Community Council at 7pm in Youth Hall.

Singing Mamas every Monday in the Institute from 10.30am.

Light Exercise Class every Wednesday 10.30 –11.30am in Morebattle Village Hall.

Camera Club in Institute on 1st Wednesday of every Month at 7pm.

Church Diary

April

Thursday 7th – Morebattle & Hownam Guild AGM in the Institute at 2pm.

Monday 24th – Kirk session at 7pm in Yetholm Church.

Coffee at Yetholm Church every Tuesday from 10 30 – 12noon. All very welcome

Craft Group at Yetholm Church every Monday from 2 – 4pm. Come along and bring whatever craft you enjoy and share chat and company with like-minded folk.

THEATRE TOURS INTERNATIONAL presents

UNDER MILK WOOD

Wauchope Hall Town Yetholm

Saturday 27th May at 7.30pm. Tickets £12

Contact Susan Stewart on j.stewart134@btinternet.com to reserve seats.

by **Dylan Thomas**

Performed by **Guy Masterson**

Directed by **Tony Boncza** (with original direction by George Dillon)

Original music and Soundscape by **Matt Clifford**

IT HAS TO BE SEEN TO BE BELIEVED!

Celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2023... One day in the life of 'Llareggub' - a fictional sea-town somewhere in Wales...

All 69 of Dylan Thomas' wonderfully ebullient inhabitants in his timeless masterpiece are assiduously recreated in an amazing feat of memory and physical virtuosity. Complemented by a stunning original soundscape by Matt Clifford, it's bawdy and beautiful, sad and sensual and, through the music of language, leaves indelible, unforgettable images of humanity.

The beauty of Thomas's wordplay and Masterson's virtuosity will leave you breathless!

inspired by his famous uncle, Richard Burton, who led the first broadcast on the BBC World Service in January 1954, Here, Olivier Award winner, Masterson, brings the entire work to vivid life on stage by himself!

This production has since played over 2000 times all over the world from Swansea to the West End, Trinidad to New Zealand, Hong Kong to Calcutta over 30 years, enchanting audiences wherever it has played.



Although Spring is not quite with us, the daffodils are starting to open and the days are becoming lighter and longer, though not much warmer.

As Spring approaches, we look forward to the start of longer shop opening hours in April, with the outdoor benches, front and back, being used again by locals and visitors, the St Cuthbert's Way walkers and cyclists all enjoying our very popular fresh bean-to-cup coffees, soft drinks, food, and snacks. The reopening of the refurbished public toilets has surprisingly put the shop on the route of delivery couriers, council workers, tradespeople, and carers.

The shop is always on the lookout for new volunteers and asks that if anyone can spare a couple of hours and is interested in joining our wonderful band of volunteers, they should contact managers Pauline or Roddy to discuss. Minimum age 14, upper age no limit!

As well as helping the community shop this can also result in a sense of belonging, meeting new friends, companionship and developing new skills, personal growth and self-confidence, hours to suit.

We continue to collect for the Kelso Foodbank. Requests in particular for tins of fruit/puddings/tomatoes and tinned meats are much needed.

Keep up to date with the latest shop news by following us on our Facebook page.

A huge thank you to all our customers, our hard-working volunteers, shop managers, and our wonderful community for making Morebattle Community Shop the vibrant hub that it is.

The editorial team would like to thank all of you who have contributed articles, photographs and information for this edition of The Cheviot.

At the present time all events and groups remain in limbo. The Halls in our areas are slowly and carefully reopening for limited activities – contact your local Hall for further information.

Deadline

Please submit articles (including photographs) for the next edition of The Cheviot to a member of the editorial by 24th June 2023

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Register

Wedding: Rebecca Thomson and Hugh Rettie

Deaths: Dorothy Wallace, Jean Douglas, Neil McIntyre, Ron Breeze, Patrick Playfair- Hannay, Graeme Wallace, Jean Davidson, Joe Scott-Plummer and Gregor Walker.

Travels with Rotary International 2

We left you as we headed to Lima, Peru which was memorable for so many things (including altitude sickness, but that's a story for another day!). Being there was like living a childhood dream of the Incas. Seeing how the Spanish, led by Pizarro, have conquered, and influenced the country for so long – seeing Cusco, the Inca capital, pyramids, Macchu Picchu – it was magical. But onwards

Next stop was Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic – parts lovely, parts like Blackpool with palm trees. The joy there was watching the reaction to a Scotsman in full kilt with the temperature at 95F! Home then for Christmas with just a couple of side trips to Chicago and Dubai, as you do. Then time to relax!

January saw us off again to Orlando, Florida. This is the time of year when Rotary leaders from all over the world come together for training before they take office in July. They all hear the President-Elect's priorities for the year and get to understand his focus and goals. Approximately 1200 people from 200 different countries – a positive melting pot of nations. My highlight here? Holding a ceilidh – with haggis, pipes and dancing. I will ever have the picture of Korean ladies doing a Dashing White Sergeant, concentrating SO carefully on the instructions being called by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society's Orlando branch. Everywhere we go, we are finding pipes and drums, Burns' Societies, St Andrew's Societies, Country Dancers, and tartan. So much tartan. Kilts hired especially worn the wrong way round – and all with the full story of how Scottish they are as their ancestors came from Co Antrim.....!!

A few weeks off, then it was regional training time. Los Angeles, then Vienna and Mexico City. Onwards, once more puddle jumping round the States – Seattle, Chicago, Valley Forge Pennsylvania, Dallas, Orlando, San Francisco (record snow levels there – unheard of), Kalamazoo – and I'll leave the song up to you -Boston, Columbus, Houston, Greensboro NC, St Louis, and New Jersey.

Many high points – seeing the sights whenever time permits, even if it's just a drive by – sometimes finding how close you are to history e.g. Valley Forge was where George Washington overwintered the Continental Army

during the War of Independence before going on to oust the British. Stetsons and Rodeos in Houston, but even better, getting to visit Mission Control at NASA and stand on the floor of the famous room we have all seen every rocket launch, all our lives. In the very place where modern history has been and is still being made. We saw sunrise from the International Space Station – a powerful sight. And for Gordon, we toured a few of the wineries in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys – a powerful taste! America never fails to amaze – everywhere is so vast and so vastly different. The “big,small cities”, the house styles, local customs, accents, beliefs. The willingness of some to embrace all – and the unwillingness of others. Sometimes the lack of knowledge even of their own country (and as for Scotland – “that’s in Australia, isn’t it?”). Our learning curve is still on a huge upward trajectory with no end in sight...

More soon, but meantime, wherever we’ve been, Yetholm’s best!

Heather

A little look at what we have been learning about lately...

Morebattle Primary School and ELC



In primary 1/2 we have been learning about our village and where we live. We made this big map together for the corridor- we labelled the river, the roads and some important buildings.

Earlier this term we made beautiful highland cows

inspired by Steven Brown using colourful wool.



Primary 3/4 and Primary 5-7 have all started to learn about Space. P5-7 have started to make models of the planets in our solar system. It was quite messy but lots of fun!



P3/4 impressed us with their fact finding about the planets. They presented it alongside paintings that they had made showing the planets in the correct order.



The ELC (nursery) have been out and about around the school looking for signs of spring. They were really interested in the flowers that they found.

The children also wanted to share their paintings of their Grannies which are up on the wall looking fantastic!

Yetholm Primary School and ELC

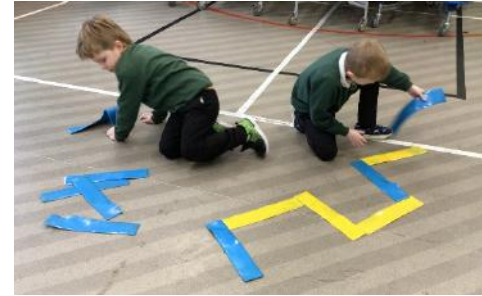
Primary 4-7 have been very busy over the last couple of months.



The whole school worked towards a special Scottish celebration Assembly, with our older children preparing speeches as part of the entertainment. Here are some of the Charles Rennie Mackintosh inspired artwork they produced too. Recently we have had teams from the class representing Yetholm at the small school's basketball competition, the Kelso/Jedburgh area basketball competition, and the Kelso schools Cross



Country Championship. They have represented the school well each time demonstrating teamwork and perseverance- well done!



Following on from our success in gaining our Gold Award from the Woodland Trust we are now working on the next step- our Platinum Award. We have been mapping the areas around the school and considering what we can do to help the environment further. In math's we have been learning about directions and have been creating mazes for our friends to direct us out of!



In ELC our children wanted to do something special for Mother's Day recently so set up an afternoon of treats. They baked and prepared activities such as hairdressing, hand (and nail) painting and making bracelets. Our mums came to visit us on Wednesday 15th which was so lovely to see.

On Conviction

What would your first thought be if I were to say to you “Well, of course, so-and-so has convictions?” Would it be well, were they served in Saughton or Barlinnie? Or might it be oh yes, that person has their convictions that fairies exist or that horoscopes predict the future or that they can speak to the ghost of their tortoise? Or could it be thank goodness, at least some people have sincerity and integrity these days?

“Conviction” is a curious word, and like all words it has a smirr of meanings around it. It comes from Latin, with con- meaning “with” and vincere, “to conquer”. Various older texts use it to mean “being full persuaded” (in the 1690s) to “admonition of the conscience” (in the 1670s). Nowadays we talk a lot about “conviction”, in an age of fake news and telephone scams and online hoaxes. So, what do we make of being a person of conviction?

I go back to the Bible, and it is intriguing, to me at least, how this helps. First of all, Jesus convinces. Perhaps the greatest example is St Paul, who had not believed a jot. Curiously enough, St Paul refers to himself repeatedly as a convict, not a convert. He uses the word “prisoner” in Ephesians 3:1, in Philemon 1:1, and it appears in Romans 16:7. But he is a prisoner “of Christ”, not “for the sake of Christ”. What does it mean to be Christ’s convict?

Another Latin word that helps is “vinculum”, which means “chain”. We are chained to Christ. We are chained in love to the helpless child in the manger, we are chained when we drop tools and follow behind, we are chained to Him as we walk to Calvary and chained to him as He hangs on the cross. He is enchained to us, His is the “love that wilt not let me go”. To be a “prisoner of Christ” is to be free, to have and own our conviction.



Yetholm Community Shop

The Management Committee has been strengthened by the election of Andrew Torrance and Neil McPherson at the Special General Meeting held on 7 March. This will go some way to filling the gap left by the passing

of Neil McIntyre, one of our most active founder members, earlier this year.

At the shop premises, the bollards have now been removed from the forecourt, and this marks the completion of our refurbishment and extension project, except for some painting and decorating work still to be done, including the lettering for the name-board on the façade, above the main shop window.

Now that we are settled back into our modernised premises, we are looking forward to a steady pattern of spring and summer trading. This will be supported by the increased visitor presence in the village over the summer months.

Rising costs and the effects of inflation are a continuing challenge for us, but at least we have the advantage of being a not-for-profit enterprise, and able to draw on the contributions of our volunteers.

We are always keen to talk to anyone interested in joining their ranks, at any level: please don't be shy in coming forward!

An Easter Carol

by

Christina Rossetti

Spring bursts to-day,
For Christ is risen and all the earth's at play.
Flash forth, thou Sun,
The rain is over and gone, its work is done.
Winter is past,
Sweet Spring is come at last, is come at last.
Bud, Fig and Vine,
Bud, Olive, fat with fruit and oil and wine.
Break forth this morn
In roses, thou but yesterday a Thorn.
Uplift thy head,
O pure white Lily through the Winter dead.
Beside your dams
Leap and rejoice, you merry-making Lambs.
All Herds and Flocks
Rejoice, all Beasts of thickets and of rocks.
Sing, Creatures, sing,
Angels and Men and Birds and everything.
All notes of Doves
Fill all our world: this is the time of loves.

Cheviot Churches Elders and Districts

Leslie Thomson	West of Morebattle, Eckford and Crailing.
Jenny Flannigan	Main Street, Heughhead and Renwick Gardens Morebattle.
George Lees	Mainsfield Avenue, Morebattle Mains and Whitton.
Anne Brown	Kale Valley and Hownam.
Brian Kelly	Linton
Trish Gentry	Bowmont Valley.
Graeme Watson	Woodbank Road, Braeside Road, Cheviot Road.
Pippa Emerson	Grafton Road to Mission, Grafton Bank, Main St from Old Manse to Cheviot Place, The Crescent, Duncanhaugh and Hayhope
John Thompson	Grafton Corner, Yewtree Lane, Road and Bank to Romany House
Susan Stewart	Deanfield Place, Court, Road and Bank. Back Lane and Dairy Wood.
Stuart Kelly /Tom Tokely	School to butcher and Dow Brae, Morebattle Road from top to Cheviot Place.
Carol Butler	Kirk Yetholm Village and Halterburn.
Arthur Bates	The Yett, Shotton, Yetholm Mains and Harelaw.
Ann Harvey	Hoselaw, Cherrytrees, Lochside, Lochside farms and cottages, Old Graden, Graden, Hoselaw.
Simon Oldham	Mainhouse, Bankhead and Linton Hill.
David Lang	Teapot Street and Bank. Thimble Lane.
Jimmy Fleming	Kelso (part)
Alan Calvert	Kelso (part)
Debbie Brown	Postal

Church Services – Yetholm, Linton and Morebattle.
Please see notices for opening times for private prayer and reflection.

Yetholm every Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

Morebattle every Sunday at 11.15 a.m. except
1st Sunday when we meet at **Linton**.

Hownam is now irregular. Please check notices.

Hoselaw is open for private devotion at all times and hosts occasional services.

Prayer Service will be held in Linton Church at 6.30pm. All Welcome.

Cheviot Churches: Church of Scotland (Charity No SC003023)

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The Manse (formerly The Old Police House)
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Email revcdj60@gmail.com

Session Clerk:

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Treasurer:

Brian Kelly, The Haven, 5 Morebattle Road, Town Yetholm, Kelso TD5 8RL
Tel: 01573 420221 E mail: bjkelly@uwclub.net

Safeguarding Co-Ordinator:

Heather Freeland – Cook 01573 420480

Roll Keeper:

Pippa Emerson 01573420279

Committee Convenors:

Mission and Outreach: Elizabeth Watson 01573 420602

Children and Youth Ministry Team: Graeme Watson 01573 420602

Ways and Means with Stewardship: Rae Redpath 01573 420451

Worship Committee: Rev. Colin Johnston 01573 440539

www.cheviotchurches.org
